

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 10/26/2018

Contact: Brooke Clanton, (501) 410-4616, brooke.clanton@agriculture.arkansas.gov

Governor Hutchinson Declares October Pork Month

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. – During a ceremony today at the State Capitol, Governor Hutchinson joined agriculture leaders, industry partners, and pork producers as he declared October as Pork Month in Arkansas. The Pork Month proclamation highlights Arkansas's pork industry and its value to Arkansas's economy and agriculture industry. Find the full Arkansas Pork Month proclamation, [here](#).

"The hog has long been a special animal for so many Arkansans across our great state, and today we recognize those farm families and businesses dedicated to providing consumers with a nutritious and safe supply of pork products," said Governor Hutchinson. "Hard work and long hours go into swine production so consumers enjoy their favorite pork meats."

Arkansas produces more than 1.2 million hogs annually contributing to the average American's diet of approximately 50 pounds of pork per person.

"Agriculture is our state's largest industry with an economic impact of over \$21 billion each year," said Wes Ward, Secretary of the Arkansas Agriculture Department (AAD). "Pork production consistently ranks in the top 10 Arkansas commodities and provides \$64 million annually in cash receipts. We are thankful for the farmers and ranchers who provide this protein every year."

In celebration of Pork Month, Arkansas Grown and Arkansas Made, AAD marketing programs that promote locally raised foods and manufactured products, hosted a monthly giveaway featuring a pork product basket from Petit Jean Meats, an Arkansas Made Gold Member. Approximately 130,000 people entered to win the basket, setting a record for Arkansas Grown and Arkansas Made giveaways. Governor Hutchinson randomly selected the winner of the basket immediately following the proclamation. Shelia Boone from El Dorado, Arkansas was selected as the winner. Watch the full proclamation and giveaway drawing, [here](#).

Arkansas Grown, Arkansas Made and Homegrown by Heroes provide branding and promotional benefits for its 800-plus members and offer a vital connection between Arkansas producers, makers and consumers. For more information about Arkansas Agriculture Department marketing programs, see arkansasgrown.org.

#

The Arkansas Agriculture Department offers its programs to all eligible persons regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability and is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

